



Request for City Council Committee Action from the Information Technology Department

Date October 29, 2013

To: The Honorable Betsy Hodges, Chair, Ways and Means Committee

Subject: Execute agreement with St. Paul Neighborhood Network for the Community Technology Empowerment Project AmeriCorps position with the IT Department for the 2013-2014 program year.

Recommendation: Authorize proper City officials to enter into an agreement with St. Paul Neighborhood Network for up to \$10,000 for the 2013 – 2014 program year using their AmeriCorps host site agreement form to enable the City to participate in the Community Technology Empowerment Project AmeriCorps program.

Prepared by Elise Ebhardt, Interagency Coordinator, 612-673-2026

Submitted by Beth Cousins _____, 673-2820
Deputy Chief Information Officer

Approved by Paul Aasen _____
City Coordinator

Presenter in Committee Elise Ebhardt

Policy Review Group X Not Applicable

Permanent Review Committee (PRC) X Not Applicable

Prior Related Directives: None

Financial Impact: None. No additional appropriation is required.

Financial Impact (Check those that apply)

- X No financial impact (If checked, go directly to Background/Supporting Information)
- Action requires an appropriation increase to the Capital Budget
- Action requires an appropriation increase to the Operating Budget
- Action provides increased revenue for appropriation increase
- Action requires use of contingency or reserves
- Other financial impact (Explain):
- X Request provided to department's finance contact prior to the Committee Coordinator

Background/Supporting Information

The IT Department applied for the St. Paul Neighborhood Network's Community Technology Empowerment Project AmeriCorps program in conjunction with Community Planning and Economic Development (CPED) and the Civil Rights Departments to address the digital divide as it relates to the racial employment disparity in Minneapolis. The IT Department was selected as one of 32 host sites throughout the Twin Cities to participate in the 2013 – 2014 program.

IT is working with the City Attorney's Office on the host site agreement with St. Paul Neighborhood Network (SPNN) which includes contract terms for the AmeriCorps position and defines roles and responsibilities for SPNN, the City as a partner site and IT serving as the supervising department, and the AmeriCorps member. In addition to the host site agreement, SPNN has agreed to meet the City's standard liability insurance requirements.

The City's IT vision includes a component for closing the digital divide – the gap between individuals and groups in their access to and use and knowledge of information and communication technologies. The AmeriCorps Member will be targeting populations to improve technology access and skills based on data from the Minneapolis 2012 and 2013 Community Technology Surveys. In addition, the City's Civil Rights and Community Planning and Economic Development Departments are committed to closing the racial/ethnic employment disparities that exist in Minneapolis, targeting efforts toward two specific goals: To work toward eliminating race/ethnicity disparities in unemployment for Minneapolis residents with a benchmark of a 25% reduction by 2016; and to work toward eliminating race/ethnicity disparities in the poverty rate for Minneapolis residents by reducing the percentage of Minneapolis minority residents living in poverty by 25% by 2016.

Request for Approval

IT requests approval for proper City officials to enter into an agreement with St. Paul Neighborhood Network for up to \$10,000 for the 2013 – 2014 program year using their AmeriCorps host site agreement form to enable the City to participate in the Community Technology Empowerment Project AmeriCorps program.

No additional appropriation is required. The host site fee of \$6,000 for the 2013 – 2014 program year plus additional expenses for transportation and other reimbursable items are expected to be less than a total of \$10,000. The costs will be shared between IT and CPED and are covered within the existing IT and CPED budgets.